7 March 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Tom Clark Awards

- 1. I called the D. C. Bar Association to clarify one of the provisions of the Tom Clark Awards Program. The instructions limited nominees to lawyers "employeed in the District of Columbia". We wanted to confirm that a lawyer employed by the Agency but working in the Headquarters Building or other locations could be nominated.
- 2. The Bar Association referred me to Mr. William Malone (phone 389-2189) who is assisting with the program this year. Mr. Malone indicated that they receive nominations from the Pentagon and other agencies located nearby but outside D. C. He invited the Agency to nominate any of our lawyers that might be working in the Headquarters Building or nearby areas.

STATINTL

Chief, Benefits and Services Division

March 1976

Per telecon with D. C. Chapter of Federal Bar Assn., it does not appear that candidates need be members of the Federal Bar Assn.

Tom C. Clark Award

Contact: Federal Bar Assn.

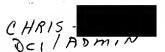
Karen

638-0252

or

Perry Johnson 523-3743

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## The Federal Diary

## Tax Break on Sick Pay Is Threatened



By Mike Causey

Many federal workers and other taxpayers now drawing sick pay or disability benefits would lose the current \$100 weekly maximum tax exclusion under legislation that has cleared the House and been approved by the Senate Finance Committee.

The bill, H.R. 10612, would not abolish sick leave pay or benefits for anyone. But it would tighten standards and qualifications for all persons under 65 who would have to prove they were permanently and totally disabled for work to retain the tax exclusion. Otherwise, they would still be able to draw the sick pay or disability benefits, but would have to pay taxes on them as part of gross income.

Persons who could prove that they were permanently and totally disabled for work could claim the maximum \$100 a week tax exclusion. The Senate has added language that would authorize double that amount, up to a \$10,400 annual maximum, for husband and wife taxpayers who are both drawing disability payments.

The "permanent and to-

The "permanent and totally disabled" definition unde the bill means that an The new standards would be a real problem for many federal retirees because the government, as an employer, is much more liberal in granting "disability" retirements than are many private firms.

Federal officials say there are large numbers of government personnel now drawing disability benefits who have other jobs, or could qualify for other jobs under the new guidelines. They would continue to get benefits even if they didn't meet the new criteria, but they would be taxed on them for the first time.

The controversial tax-revision measure—as complicated as it is lengthly—still faces a tough fight on the Senate floor. But the measures outlined above—while subject to amendment or change when Senate-House conferees finally meet—are in the legislation at the moment.

Daniel M. Friedman, described by an impartial observor as "a treasure of a public scrvant," is this year's winner of the prestigious Tom C. Clark Award. The honor goes to the outstanding federal attorney here as designated by the Federal Bar Association's D.C. chapter, which has lots of people to pick from. Friedman has been with Justice since 1951.

Legal Secretary: D.C. Public Defender Service has a Grade 6 opening. Call Rachel Cox at 638-1980.

Former Postmaster Gen-